



# QIBLAH, ADHÀN & IQÀMAH

## القبلة والاذان والاقامة

### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Understand the fact that there are conditions for the place of prayer
- Understand that our the environment has an effect on our prayer
- Have a clear idea that prayers should not be missed or delayed unnecessarily and that most places can be used for prayers
- Learn the most commonly encountered conditions with important details
- Understand the rule of the place of prostration
- Briefly discuss the importance and rewards of visiting and praying at the mosque

### JURISPRUDENCE

### LEVEL 3

#### LESSON 1: THE PLACE OF PRAYER

Prayers are the best method of communication with Allah (SWT) and so we must give special importance to prayer.

The environment in which we pray is important and affects the spirituality we feel during prayer. This is why there are certain rules we should remember when it comes to the place in which we are praying.

#### WHERE CAN WE PRAY?

Allah (SWT) has made the whole earth a place for worship. We can pray in most places and the place we are in should not cause us to delay or miss our prayers. However, there are some simple conditions we need to remember when it comes to the place of prayer:

- We have to be the owners of the place or have permission to use the place. If we are praying somewhere where we are not allowed to be, then our prayer is not valid.
- The place of prayer should not be Najis and wet. If it is Najis and wet it would make our clothes and body Najis and this would void our prayer. Therefore, our place of prayer cannot be Najis and wet. If it is Najis but dry, we can still pray there. However, the place on which we perform prostration (sujūd) must be *ṭāhir*, even if it is dry.
- If a man and a woman are praying close to one another, the woman should pray behind the man. However, if there is a barrier between them or they are more than five metres apart, then it is

okay for them to pray side by side or for the woman to pray in front.

- The place of prayer must be steady and not moving (for example, we cannot pray on a rocking boat)
- We cannot pray on very steep hills or steps because the place we perform sujūd on should be roughly level with where we are standing.

## RULES OF SUJŪD

The thing on which we perform sujūd has to meet certain conditions. The most important conditions to remember are:

- It cannot be made of something which can be eaten or worn
- It must come from the earth (for example, paper grown from trees)

The common things we can prostrate on are:

- Solid clay which is normally called 'Turbah'. The preferred clay is from the land of Karbalā' or places where our Prophet (saw) or Imams (as) are buried.
- A piece of wood which is in its original form.
- Any other thing which is grown from the earth like leaves as long as they are not edible or wearable.
- Paper is also something we can use, especially if none of the above are available

## THE REWARDS OF PRAYING AT THE MOSQUE

Attending the mosque and praying in a mosque are extremely rewarding. The mosque is the 'house of Allah' and attending the mosque shows that we are respecting the house of Allah and showing our submission to Allah. Let us look at the following two narrations to see just how much reward there is in attending the mosque and praying there:

*"Whoever walks to the mosque with the intention of praying in a congregation gets the equivalent of seventy thousand good deeds for every step he takes, and he is raised as many levels..."<sup>i</sup>*

*"O Abu Dharr, as long as you are sitting in the mosque, Allah will grant you an extra level in paradise for every breath you take, the angels will ask for blessings for you, and ten good deeds are recorded for you and ten bad deeds are wiped away for every breath you take while you are sitting in the mosque".<sup>ii</sup>*

## Review Questions

### Q1. The place where we are praying:

- Should not be Najis
- Should not be Najis and wet
- Should not be wet

### Q2. The place where we are praying:

- Should be stable
- Can be stable or moving
- Should be moving Should be moving

### Q3. If a man and a woman are praying close together:

- They can pray side by side
- The man must be in front of the woman even if there is a curtain between them
- The man must be in front of the woman if there is no curtain between them

<sup>i</sup> The Scale of Wisdom, chapter on mosques

<sup>ii</sup> Ibid